Tribune's Special Dispatches. Anti-Fugitive Slave Law Meeting in Lynn, Mass.

Boston, Sunday, March 2. A very large Anti-Fugitive Slave Law meeting of the citizens of Lynn, Mass. without respect of party, was held in that city last evening. Mayor Hoon presided, and made a speech, in which he said, "he considered the law unjust, inhuman, and not fit to be obeyed." He solemnly pledged himself never to lift a finger in the work of returning a fellow man to Slavery; neither would he use his official power to protect Slave-catchers.

A series of strong resolutions were passed, one of which is as follows:

Resolved, That the citizens of Lynn, being free themselves, will never assist in enslaving others A meeting in opposition to the law is to be holden this evening in Beverly, and another in Springfield to morrow night. H.

By Telegraph to The New-York Tribane. Jouthern Magnetic Telegraph Office, cor. Hanover and Beaver etc.

For late and important Telegraph dispatches see Sixth Page.

Items from the Capital.

The Legislature of Pennsylvania arrived here yesterday morning. Last night they were hospitably entertained by the Mayor and the City Council, at Brown's Hotel. Many of them left the city this morning for Harrisburg.

Senator Beston has been confined to his room for some time by a severe indirection.

for some time by a severe indisposition, and is as yet unable to attend in the Senate.

Serious doubts are entertained about the pas-

sage of several appropriation bills, and an extra assion of Congress, or at least of the Senate, is deemed quite probable.

Institus Murd, Esq., Commissioner of Public Buildings, died here this morning.

State of the Weather ... March ! .- 8 P. M. Buffalo-Cloudy-wind west-ther. 32-bar. 29 20.

ROCHESTER-Rather cloudy-cold-wind west-ther. 30.

LUBURN-Cloudy and cold-looks like a storm-wind Been quite pleasant but cold-wind south-

east—ther 52.

"Urica—A beautiful clear evening—wind unchanged—ther 32—bar 29 550. r. 32—bar 29.550. LLAANY—We have had a clear and very pleasant day— ad northwest—ther. 32—bar 30.66—mercury 68. PROY—Clear and bracing day—light breeze from north-methor. 30. ALBANYest—ther 30.

BURLINGTON—Cloudy—wind north—ther. 30.

WHITEHALL—Clear—wind north—ther. 30.

Anniversary of St. David's Day. SATURDAY, March 1, 1851.

The members of the St. David's Society celebrated the anniversary of St. David's Day by a dinner at Perkins's Odd Fellow's Hall, last Sat urday evening. About 80 gentlemen sat down to an excellent repast got up by Perkins in a manner that gave the greatest satisfaction to all present. The Chair was filled by WILLIAM MILES, Esq. President of the Society, aided by G. W. Griffith, Esq. 1st Vice-President, and Geo. Morgan, Esq. 2nd Vice-President. A number of invited guests were present, among whom we noticed his honor the Recorder, Edward Walker, Esq., representative of the St. George Society, Charles T. Cromwell, Esq., Thomas Small, Esq., David Jones, Esq., and others. After the removal of the cloth the President announced the following standard toasts :

1. The Day.
2. Cambris - Our Mother Land - we render thee the homage due from thy children.

3. The United States—The Land to which we are wedded from child; we will always cherish and support the Union.

When the third standard toast was drunk the company were perfectly vociferous in their ap. plause, and it was some minutes before quiet was restored. His Honor Judge TALMADGE, the Re. corder, taking advantage of this electrifying manfeelings in regard to the Union, rose and made a truly patriotic and heart-stirring speech, which elicited the warmest applause.

4. Great Britam—The patron of the Arts, the fosterer of lenius, and the seat of Commerce; may peace and happing Genius, and the seat of Commerce; may peace and happi-ness be universally diffused among her people

5 The City of New York - At present the Empire City of the Western World; destined ere long to be the metropo-

to Western World; destined ere long to be the metropo-lis of the globe.

6. Our Stafer Societies—Engaged in the same benevolent enterprise with ourselves; we cordially welcome their re-presentatives to our feative bland.

In announcing the toast of the Sister Societies. the President took occasion to state that he had received, as an accompaniment to a note of acceptance of an invitation tendered to Charles T. Cromwell, Esq. a check for \$100, as a donation to the permanent fund of the Society. This was received with every expression of gratitude by the company, who proposed Mr. Cromwell's health with long and continued applause. When the applause had subsided, Mr. Cromwell rose and applause had subsided, Mr. Cromwell rose and in a speech of some length dwelt upon the usefulness of such institutions as the St. David's and the credit they reflected upon the character of those nations from whom their members emanated.

He encouraged the members of the St. David's Society, to preserve and keep action in their be nevolent enterprises and goop works.

The President of St. David's Society, William Miles, Esq., concluded a brief but eloquent address by a donation of \$100 to its permanent fund.

Mr. Walker next followed in a very well-received speech. He attempted to account for the peaceable character of the Welsh people from their great love of music, and illustrated his ideas by a very amusing description of a musical family in the State of New Jersey, with whom he had the pleasure of being acquainted. He concluded with a sentiment, and a donation of \$50. This was followed by another of \$100 from Peter Roberts, Esq. Thomas Smull and David Jones, Esqrs contributed \$20 each. A letter was received from the Mayor, expressing his inability to be present, and inclosing a donation to the funds of the Society. Letters of regret were also received from the Presidents of the St. Nicholas and the St. Andrew's Society, and one from Hon. Zadock Pratt, from which we have room but to give the following closing paragraph, and

the sentiment which accompanied it: the sentiment which accompanied it:

Such meetings must ever tend to keep alive a spirit of barmony between Americans and their adopted brethren. I feel myself bonored in welcoming among us men, who are of the stock from which I myself originated, (and another generation will make us all Americans in spirit and in earnest.) as well as from a bond of union between the old world, and the new that can never be broken. I behave this is the only country where men of all nations can come together, and where each succeeding year affords greater facilities for improvement as well as developing the next necousite advantages for physical advancement. We offer and welcome you to a country where office and become to all, and where merit alone is the criterion of the man.

I have the honor to be yours, truly

Z. PRATT.

The following sentiment accompanied the letter

The following sentiment accompanied the letter of Mr. Pratt:

"Our adopted citizens—May they ever fird a home for themselves and a patrimony for their children. We offer them abone assured that they will a twace the interests of our common country. They come among us in crowds We can say to them, with open hands, "You are all wel-come—and yet there is room for more."

During the evening the following volunteer sentiments were offered:

By Grore Morgan, second Vice-President.—" The Welsh Contributors to the World's Fuir-May the specimers of their genius and industry bear an honorable comparison with the best mechanics and inventors of the Globe."

By David S. Jones - The St. David's Benevolent Soc Founded upon the necessities of the destinte; may its researcy ever overflow to irrigate the barrenness of penary. By Thomas R. Jones, Secretary — The health of our about brother, John Kenns — Who is absent from our midst in consequence of sickness; may he soon be restored in boath.

This toast was prefaced by some complimentary remarks upon the character of Mr. Evans, who had been incessant in his labors for years in the cause of the poor. The health was drank with tramendous cheers.

Speeches, Songs and Sentiments were happily interspersed during the evening, and the total subscriptions received amounted to \$395. Much

credit is due to Messrs. Jones and Price. Stewards of the Society, for the attention shown by those gentlemen to the company A speech from J. T. Pryse, Esq., replete with historic matter, in relation to the history of the Ancient Britons, and one from Mr. Carroll in response to the toast of "The Brotherhood of the good men of all nations," given by the President, were well received and much applauded

Shelton's Band furnished some excellent music and the Welsh songs sung by Mr. Williams and others were rapturously received. About midnight the Sons of Cambria abandoned the festive board, each well pleased with the evening's en

## CENTRAL AMERICA.

Later from San Salvador-Blockade of Honduras-Movements of the Allied Armies-

Carrera's Plans Defeated. We have received files of the Gaceta del Salva dor, and other documents to the 10th of January, from the State of San Salvador, Central America They contain some further particulars of the movements of the two parties in Central America -the Guatemalan, under the control of Mr Chatfield, and the true Central American, composed o the States of San Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua. The Gaceta of January 3, announces the blockade of the port of Tigre (Amapaia) in the State of Honduras, by the English vessels, acting under Chatfield's direction. All the Pacific ports of San Salvador and Honduras are now blockaded, and Nicaragua is threatened with similar injury The Gaceta says. "It cannot be believed that Queen Victoria, in whose name such outrageous proceedings are carried on, has been watching the internal politics of these States, for the purpose of employing her power to embarrass and injure them. In the end, Providence will give us the means of liberating ourselves from such tyranny, and the vengeance of an oppressed people will recoil upon these foreign scourges."

A war between Guatemala-or at least the Central Government of that State-on one side, and the allied States of Honduras and San Salvador on the other, seems almost inevitable. We have received the first bulletin of the allied ar mies, dated San Salvador, Jan. 8. At the call of the Supreme Government of the latter State, for troops to protect the Guatemala frontier, an army of 4,000 men, well armed and organized. was raised at once. The soldiers were command ed by brave and experienced officers, and were full of enthusiasm for their cause. Honduras was in the field with an army of 2,000 men, and the union of the two armies, in spirit and resolution, is most complete. As the allied armies approach ed the frontier of Guatemala, the inhabitants of the mountain provinces of that State-who are nearly all in favor of the Federal Union of the Central American States-flocked from all quarters to join them. It was rumored that the people of Guatemala, opposed to the machinations of the Central Government, were forming a force of their own, to cooperate with those of the

The army of San Salvador is distributed in a line commencing at Coatepeque and terminating at Chalchuapa. The Presidents of the two States met on the 4th of January, in the town of Ocotepeque, in Honduras, for the purpose of arranging a common plan of action. The reception of Vasconcelos. President of San Salvador, was most enthusiastic. Balls, theatrical representations and public festivities of all kinds were instituted in his honor. On the 7th he returned to San Sal-

A plot of Carrers to create a revolt in San Sal vador has been most signally defeated. It appears that he commissioned several citizens that State, who had enlisted themselves in his service, to stir up dissensions among the people, during the absence of the army on the Guatemala rontier. These men-officers of the name of Castro, Machuca, Gonzales, and others-were on their way, with an escort of soldiers, to meet Carrera at the town of Juliapa. There they were to be strengthened by a corps of two hundred men, with a supply of money, and to proceed to the Salvadorean province of Sonsonate and Incite the people to revolt. Before they reached Julia pa, however, Brancamonte, a captain in the army of Guatemala, discovered their plans, deserted with forty men and took them prisoners, with the exception of one officer and a few soldiers, who bered with a right of possession by Indian tribes. exception of one officer and a few soldiers, who made their escape. Brancamonte secured the papers which revealed the plan of Carrera, shot the prisoners and joined the allied army, with his men. The next day another party of twenty-six men, who had also deserted from the Guatemalan ranks, captured the remainder of the revolutionary party and consigned them to the same fate. The discovery of this plot excited the strongest feeling of hostility throughout San Sal'

A postscript to the bulletin, dated Jan. 9th, 10 A M., says: " From all quarters it is announced that the desertion in the forces of Guatemala still continues. Companies of armed men are continually arriving at the town of Metapam, where the troops of Gen. Nufio are stationed. The good service rendered us by Capt. Bracamonte has almost broken up the force at Chiquimula, and at Jutiapa half a company deserts at a time. It is said that Carrera has been summoned in all haste to the City of Guatemala." It is evident from these statements that the "Union" party of Central America is very powerful and popular, and that the arbitrary Central Government of Guatemala, were it not backed by Chatfield and his blockading fleet, could not maintain its ground a day

Senor Doroteo Vasconcelos, President of San Salvador, issued on the 10th of January an eloquent and forcible address to the people of Central America, in which he vividly describes the present position of affairs. He considers the peace of the other States violently menaced by the Government of Guatemala, and asserts that the maintenance of a sufficient force to protect Honduras and San Salvador is absolutely necessary at present. Referring to the exploit of Bracamonte, he says that the Government possesses documents taken from the captured soldiers. which fully prove the iniquity of Carrera's designs, and that if the people of Guatemala do not all rise against their rulers, it is because they have not the power. That State, he declares, possesses no Constitution, and is anti-republican in all its forms. He calls upon the Central Americans to unite in defense of the republican institutions of their country and the Federative Union of the States. We translate what the President says

of Chatfield: of Chatfield:

"Consul Chatfield, interested in sharing the spoils of Central America with the rulers of Goatenais, has taken their part. He has been approved by them in his usurpations in Nicaragua and Honduras, and his blockade of San Salvador; and now, thicking to perplex our affairs, he has ferwarded communications to the Supreme Government of Honouras, tracing a boundary line which has never existed between that take and his fictious singdom of Mosquitta, which gives to the latter more than half the territory of the scandalous enormity of giving to an assumed kingdow of Mosquitta lands which have always been recognized as belonging to Henduras. The occasion which the Consul has taken for this movement, plainly proves that he labors at the instigation of the rulers of Guatemais, in accordance with his own views. This has also been especially proved by the milization which he recently made to Honduras, that he would blockade her ports if powder should be landed in them for the use of San Salvador—a menace which ha just been verified, in the blockade of the port of Tigre."

FIRE IN GRIFFIN, GA .- On the 16th ult. a fi broke out in the Brick Range on Hill st. The following is a list of some of the sufferers: Mrs. Morris, Miliner; J. R. Martin, L. Hatton, the Daughters and Cadets of Temperance, Dr. John Dorsey, Knott & Freeman, Moor & Alford, Masonic Hall, and Mr. Elliott. Loss about \$20,090.

SPEECH OF WILLIAM H. SEWARD N THE MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSITION OF THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

Delivered in the Senate of the United States, Feb. 27, 1851 Mr. PRESIDENT .

The organization of the American Republic is a political anomaly. Ancient and modern States rudely constituted within narrow limits, have aggrandized themselves by colonies and conque while passing through various revolutions of Gov-ernment. But the world has never before seen a State assume a perfect organization in its very beginning, and extend itself over a large porti of a great continent, without conquests, without colonies, and without undergoing any change of

The success of Portugal and of the Netherlands in planting profitable commercial colonies in the East Indies, in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, stimulated nearly all the European States to attempt to secure similar advantages, by exploring and appropriating to themselves portions of the New World, then known as the Western Indies. Spain, Britain and France, divided between themselves nearly all North America. Each of these Kingdoms, however, pursued a policy so rigorous as to hinder the growth of the colonies it

The United States, in the Revolution of 1776 supplanted Great Britain in sovereignty over the region lying between the St. Lawrence and Louid stretching from the Atlantic coast to the banks of the Mississippi.

The conquering States, practically independent dent of each other, were embarrassed by conflict ing boundaries. The controversy was magnan mously ended by an agreement that each should release its claim of unappropriated Territory for the common use and benefit.

New York led the way, and ceded her claims as well of "political jurisdiction" as "of the right of soil," "to be and inure to the use and benefit of such of the United States as should become mem bers of the Federal Alliance of the said States and for no other use or purpose whatsover.

Virginia claimed the broad region lying north-west of the Ohio, and relinquished it in 1785, with a declaration that it should "be considered as a common fund for the use and benefit of such o the United States as have become or shall become members of the Confederation or Federal All ance of the said States, (Virginia inclusive,) cording to their usual and respective proportions general charge and expenditure, and shall be faithfully and bona fide disposed of for that purpose, and for no other use or purpose whatso-

Massachusetts soon afterward released to the United States, "for their benefit, Massachusetts

Connecticut conveyed in 1786, in the same form South Carolina, in 1787, ceded "for the benefit of the United States, South Carolina inclusive." North Carolina in 1790 conveyed by a deed con

taining the same declaration which had been used by Virginia, and Georgia completed the title of the United States by a cession on the same terms, attended with other stipulations which are not now important.

The Constitution of the United States, adopted in the course of this great transaction, sanctioned it as follows: "The Coppress shall have power to dispose of, and make all needful rules and reguladispose of, and make all needful rules and regula-tions respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to prej-udice any claims of the United States, or of any particular State."—Art. 14, Sec. 3.

particular State. — Art. 14, Sec. 3.

The Continental Congress had previously adopted the Ordinance of 1787, by which they established a Government in the North-western Territory, and provided for its future subdivision into States. With a view to that great political purpose, the Constitution declared that "New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union.

The purchase of Louisiana from France in 1803, the acquisition of Florida by a grant from Spain in 1819, the discovery of Oregon, and the recent purchase of New-Mexico and Upper California, extended our domain along the shores of the Gulf Mexico to the Rio Grande, and from its head waters across the Rocky Mountains and Snowy Hills to the Pacific Ocean. The aggregate quantity of this national estate is fifteen hundred and eighty four millions of acres: of which, one hundred and thirty four millions have been definitive. ly appropriated, and there remain, including ap-propriations not yet perfected, fourteen hundred and fifty millions of acres.

Using only round numbers, these lands are dis-

lows:	4	10	
In	Acres.	In lowu	Acres.
Ohlo	**** 740,000	10 w #	207, 1003,010
Indiana	2,751,000	Wisconsin	26,321,000
Diteols		MIRDEROLB	אווי, שוטי, מכי
Missonri	29,216,000	N. W. Territory	378,000.000
Alekanne	17.998.000	Oregon Territory.	218,268,00
Alabama	14 909 004	Nehraska Territ'ry	87,438 (44
Wississibhi	**** 14,000,000	Indian Torritory	110 220 000
Louistana	**** 22.804,100	Indian Territory	202 120 000
Michigan	24,864,000	California	287,162,000
Arkaness	27,402,000	New-Mexico	49,747,000
Florida	31.801.000		
E MINISTER CARREST			

which is gradually extinguished by purchase, as on require

the necessities of advancing population r At the establishment of the Federal ment the United States suffered from exhaustion by war, and labored under the pressure of a great National Debt, while they were obliged to make large expenditures for new institutions, and to prepare for defense by land and by sea. They therefore adopted a policy which treated the domain merely as a fund or source of revenue.

They divided it into townships, sections and minimum price of two dollars per acre on credit, and subsequently at private sale on the same terms. In 1820 they abolished the credit system and reduced the price to one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre. In 1833 they recognized the right of preemption in favor of actual occupants, and the system, as thus modified, still remains in form upon our statue book. The United States, owever, have at different times, made very diffe ent dispositions of portions of the domain. Thus there have been appropriated to the new States and Territories, for purposes of internal improvements, for saline reservations, for the establish-ment of seats of Government and public build-ings, and for institutions of education, as follows:

ings, and for institutions of education, as follows
To Ohio ... 1.847,575 To Louisiana ... 1,332,12
Indiana ... 2.831,696 Michigan 1,473,212
Miss uri 1,783,744 Wisconsin 217,94
Mississippi 1,284,944 Florida ... 45,72
Mississippi 1,284,944 Florida ... 1,533,63 Michigan 1,674,598 Arkansas 1,499,220 Wisconsin 21,920 Jowa 45,720 Fiorida 1,553,635

Besides these appropriations, the Senate will at once recall several acts of Congress, which sur-rendered, in the whole, 79,000,000 acres for bounties in the Mexican war, bounties in the war 812, subsequent gratuities to the soldiers in the same war and in Indian wars, cessions of swamp nds to new States, and for the construction of railroad from Chicago to Mobile, and other inter-nal improvements, none of which last-named ces-sions have yet been located.

The aggregate of revenues derived from the public domain is one hundred and thirty-five millions three hundred and thirty-nine thousand ninety-three dollars and ninety-three cents, showing an annual average revenue of one and a quarter million of dollars since the system of sales

Mr President, I think the time is near at hand when the United States will find it expedient to review their policy, and to consider the following

principles:
First. That lands shall be granted, in limited uantities, gratuitously, to actual cultivators only. SECOND. That the possessions of such grantees shall be secured against involuntary alienation.
THIRD. That the United States shall relinquish to the States administration of the public lands

within their limits. These principles, sir, have no necessary con-ection. I shall therefore discuss them sepa-

FIRST. A gratuitous allotment of lands in limited quantities to actual settlers and cultivators This principle involves three propositions: limitation of the quantity which shall be granted to any one person;
2 Occupation and cultivation as conditions of

the grant; A gratuitous grant. First. A limitation of the quantity to be al-

lotted to any one person.

If the Public Lands were mercantile merchan dise, price would be the principal, if not the only subject of inquiry. On the contrary, it is only the money received by the Government on sales, that money received by the Government on sales, that perishes or passes away. The lands remain fixed just where they were before the sale, and they constitute a part of the territory subject to administration after sale as before. The possessors of the land sold become soon, if not immediately, citizens, and they will ultimately be a majority of the whole population of the country, supporting

the Government by their contributions, maintaining it by their arms, and wielding it for their own and the general welfare. To look then at this and the general welfare. To look, then, at this subject, merely with reference to the revenue that might be derived from the sale of the lands be to commit the fault of that least erected

spirit that fell from Heaven, whose
"Looks and thoughts
Were always downward bent, admiring more /
The riches of Heaven's payement, trodden gold,
Than aught divine, or boly, else enjoyed."

All will admit-all do admit-that the domain should be so administered as to favor the increase of population, the augmentation of wealth, the cultivation of virtue, and the diffusion of happi

I do not say that land in this or in any other country ought to be or ever could be divided, and enjoyed equally. I assert no such absurdity. But some confidence, that great inequality of landed estates, here or elsewhere, tends to check population, enterprise, and wealth, and to hinder and defeat the highest interests of society. Every State in this Union recognizes this principle and guards against undue aggregation of estates by restraints upon accumulation, by in-hibitions of entails, and by dividing inheritances.

A partition of this vast public domain is inevit-able. It has been going on ever since the lands

were acquired. It is going on now. And it wil partition affords us an opportunity to apply the same beneficent and invigorating policy in a new and benign form, without disturbing any existing estates, or interfering with any vested interests, and without disturbing any established laws or customs.

There is no arbitrary measurement of the portion of land which one possessor can advantage ously cultivate. Yet there are practically di mensions within which lands are held for purpose; and when these are exceeded, the sur plus is held for purposes of commerce or specula tion. Commerce in the public lands, although by no means immoral, nevertheless, ought to be regarded with jealousy. It diverts capital from active or productive industry, and prolongs the period before the land purchased can be made fruit ful. Mortgages, judgments, and accidents of in-solvency and of death, render the title uncertain and confused, and thus exclude the lands from market. Every one has seen in new countries extensive tracts of land upon which the speculator had laid his hand, and thus rendered them useless to himself, useless to the community, and useless or nearly so to the State. The want of some security sgainst inconveniences so prejudicial to the States may now be supplied withou roducing any embarrassment to individuals or to

SECONDLY. The same policy seems to commend the principle of insisting on permanent occupation and cultivation as conditions of a grant of any por-tion of the Public Domain. It ought to be kept open and available to those who seek it for culopen and available to those was seek it for cattivation. It ought therefore to be kept free from absent owners, who, while they would exclude settlers, would leave it entirely unproductive, and who would pay to the State either nothing, or at most a tax that would poorly compensate for

stamping sterility upon the soil.

The same principle that dictated the abandonment of the credit system in 1820 seems to pre scribe now a limitation of the sales to actual set-tlers. Nor would the revenue derived from sales be affected by such a measure. The price of the land is fixed and uniform. If more lands are sold at one time under the present system than would be sold with such a limitation, a rest must follow until the excess of lands sold above the actual supply of the market shall be taken off at a profit oss from the hand of the speculator. The com mercial revulsion of 1837, aggravated by wild and reckless speculations in the domain, gave us in-structions on this subject which ought not to be

The Senator from Michigan, (Mr. Felch,) who has discussed our landed policy with very great ability, dwells upon the difficulty of prescribing the evidence of occupancy and cultivation. But this difficulty would soon be removed if the system should be changed. At the might be with held until improvements should be made suffi-cient to prevent a voluntary forfeiture.

THIRDLY. The question of making the grants of Public Lands gratuitously is one of mor culty. By gratuitous grants I mean those would be practically so, and that the lands thus disposed of should be charged with the costs of

The demand of one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, or of two hundred dollars on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, although it is not one hundred and sixty acres, although it is not unjust, and although it may be necessary, is nevertheless, in its practical operation, a tax upon the privilege of cultivating the domain. But the first and fundamental interest of the Republic is the cultivation of its soil. That cultivation is the sole fountain of the capital or wealth which supplies every channel of industry. The more it is taxed, the less freely it will flow. It is true indeed that, notwithstanding this tax, labor seeks the soil notwithstanding this tax, labor seeks the soil within the new States and Territories, and that society advances there with a rapidity unparel-

But it is equally true that the tax prevents the immigration of a very large mass of persons who States, while it rejects even a greater mass of cultivators in Europe. We are competitors with the European States in agriculture and in manufac-They have the advantage of cheaper labor We ought therefore to invite and greater capital. here the labor necessary to augment our produc-tions, and the industry and skill required to prepare them for internal and foreign commerce.

Can it be doubtful for a moment that it is our policy to bring the manufacturers to our own shores, and to invite the farmer to supply his wants from our own unproductive lands?

Commercial supremacy demands just such an agricultural basis as the fertile and extensive regions of the United States, when inhabited, will supply. Political supremacy follows commercial ascendency. It was by reason of the want of just such an sgricultural basis, that Venice, Portugal, and Holland successively lost commerce and em-pire. It was for the purpose of securing just such a basis, that France, England and Spain seized so eagerly and held so tenaciously the large por-tions of this country which they respectively oc-cupied. It was for the purpose of supplying the loss of this basis, that England has within the last seventy years extended her conquests over a large portion of India We now possess this basis, and all that we need

is to develop its capabilities as fully and as rap-tally as possible. Nor ought we to overlook an-other great political interest. Mutual jealousies delayed a long time the establishment of the Union of these States, and have ever since threatened its dissolution. It is apparent that the ultimate se-curity for its continuance is found in the power of the States established, and hereafter to be estab. rahed, on the public domain. Those new and vig-orous communities continually impart new life to the entire Commonwealth, while the absolute importance of free access to the Ocean will secure heir loyalty, even if the fidelity of the Atlantic

Such as these, sir, may have been some of the onaiderations that induced Andrew Jackson so long ago to declare his opinion, that the time was not d stant when the Public Domain ought to cease to be regarded as a source of revenue.— Such considerations may have had some influence with the late distinguished Senator from South Carolina (J. C. Calhoun) to propose a release of the Public Domain to the States, on their paying small per centum of revenue to the United States; and we are at liberty to suppose that a course of reasoning not entirely unlike this brought that eminent statesman, who is now Secretary of State, to propose here a year ago a gra-tuitous appropriation of the public domain to actual settlers. Nevertheless the practicability of such a policy,

and its harmony with other national interests, are as yet by no means generally admitted. The first objection which it encounters is the economical one, that it would be unwise to give away the one, toat it would re-public lands. But the property given would re-main with the giver ofter the gift, and would be enhanced in usefulness to himself by the gift. All that we should give away by surrendering the public domain would be the revenue that might be derived from sales. The honorable Senator from Michigan pathetically asks, what new fountain shall be opened to supply the deficiency, i this one be closed? And has it come to this, sir that the Federal Government, charged with only the burdens of national defence, of commerce, and of arbitrament between the States, while absolutely relieved from all responsibilities of munici pal and domestic administration, yet enjoying un imited power of indirect, as well as of even direct exation, cannot sustain itself in a season of profound peace, without consuming the patrimony of the States. Sir, I answer the Senator's inquiry. The resource to supply the deficiency of a million and a quarter of dollars will be found in retrench-

ment of the expenses of administration.

A SENATOR-Will this Government ever re-

trench? Does the Senator from New-York exect this Government to retrench

Mr. Seward-No, sir, not while the revenue remains full. Reduce the revenue a million and quarter, or even five millions, and you will the expenses of the Government accommodate themselves to the reduction. Raise the revenue to a hundred millions, and you will find the expenses adjust themselves to that standard. Sir, if you are ever to have retrenchment, you must begin with reducing taxation. And where can you begin so well as with the taxation upon the privilege of cultivating the national estate? But, sir, we shall have no such deficiency of revenue to supply. Alarms of an exhausted treasury are continually sounded here, while the revenues re-ceived under a system of imposts, which in many respects is most unwise, annually exceeds all estimates of administrations

Last year the Secretary of the Treasury predicted a deficiency of sixteen millions of dollars, and yet no deficiency at all occurred. The reve-nues for the present year are equally prosperous, and they will never be less prosperous while we are at peace, as I hope we shall always be; for the wealth and industry of the country are con-stantly increasing and expanding. I know, in-deed, that revenue is liable to be affected by fluctuations of trade, but such disturbances are only

occasional and temporary.

The Senator from Michigan exaggerates the prodigality of what he calls the giving away of the domain, by stating that it cost seventy five millions of dollars—equivalent to twenty two cents per acre, or thirty-two dollars and twenty cents for each farm of one hundred and sixty

acres.

And from such premises as these he argues that it would cost thirty five millions of dollars to give away the public lands lying in Wisconsin, lowa, Michigan, Missouri and Minnesota. Sir, I do not understand exactly the basis of the Sen-ator's estimate of the cost of the domain, but I can, nevertheless, safely pronounce his specula-tions entirely fallacious. If the cost of the Revotions entirely fallacious. If the cost of the Revo-lutionary War, the cost of the long controversy with France, which ended in the purchase of Louisiana, the cost of all the Indian wars, and the cost of the late war with Mexico, all of which were in some degree connected with the acqui sition of the public domain, should be included in the estimate, the entire cost of the public lands would be seven hundred millions, instead of seventy five millions of dollars. If, on the other hand the expense account be credited with a the national benefits, financial, commercial and political, which have been secured, the domain discharged from all indebtedness what-

ever to the Treasury.

Sir, the acquisition of the domain, whatever was its cost, is a transaction completed, ended, past. The value of the domain is what it is worth now, not what it cost.

Mr. President, of such a disposition of the pubic lands as I have suggested is entirely misap prehended. It is not whether we shall relinquish a revenue of one and a quarter of millions. The venue has ceased, and the fountain from which it flowed is dried up already. We have by various acts, passed within the last

ten years, given up seventy-eight millions nine hundred and thirty two thousand five hundred and thirteen acres, which are now in market, and coming into market, and which must be taken off from the hands of States and individuals before your own sales can be renewed. The Secretary the Treasury assures us that the revenue from the public domain is suspended by this legislation

for a period of sixteen years.

Sir, a revenue that is suspended for sixteen years, has practically ceased forever. The Senator from Michigan, perplexed with this argument reviews the Treasury estimates, and reduces the period of exhaustion to eight years.

Sir, I say, then, to the Senator, that he has not

hanged the case.
A national revenue that is suspended for eight years has practically ceased forever. But, Sir, neither the Senator from Michigan, nor even the Secretary of the Treasury, has estimated the period of exhaustion at its full length. Congress is annually making new appropriations. The Senate has at this session passed an act disposing of ten millions of acres.

We all hope that that act will become a law, although its effect would be to add at least five years to the term for which the revenue from the domain is suspended. Let us then apprehend the emergency as it is, and act accordingly. The domain no longer yields, nor will never again domain no longer yields, nor will never yield a revenue. Since its financial benefit ceased, let us no longer dispose of it by it and caprice, not to say by partiality and favor, but let us so dispose of it as to secure political

and social benefits to the whole Union.

It is objected that the domain is pledged to public creditors. The debt charged upon the domain is \$27,935,350, a debt which is rapidly diminishing, and, if we practice economy, will have disappeared by the appliance of revenues from customs alone, long before the public domain will yield a dollar, for even the payment of the interest on it. But if it be necessary to hold public domain liable for the debt, we may properly set apart suffi-cient lands for that purpose, and let the residue be disposed of as other interests require.

The Senator from Michigan resisted the policy proposed, on the ground that it wo value of real estate in the new State. been urged that that inconvenience would also reach the old States. The inconvenience, Mr President, if it should occur at all, would be merely temporary. The reclaiming of the domain would go on more rapidly; and we all know that cultivated as well as vacant lands rise in value just as rapidly as new lands lying among or adjacent to them are improved. What would be adjacent to them are improved. What would be lost in the first instance, would be abundantly regained afterward. There is, however, Mr. President, one objection

of a more serious nature than any I have yet con-aidered. I hear it said on all sides, that the domain ought to be disposed of for great and benelicent objects-objects beneficial to theold as well as to the new States. Sir, I have always favored such a policy, and it is upon that ground, that I have cheerfully voted hitherto, as I shall continue to vote hereafter, for appropriations upon that principle, so long as Congress shall continue to adhere even in form to the ancient system It is upon this ground that I shall support the

bill now under consideration, which proposes to bestow upon the State of Louisiana the public ands within her limits, to enable her to improve hancs within her the Mississippi—a measure to which I called the attention of the Senate at the last Session—a measure of great urgency, and of conceded national importance. I have had, more-over, a hope that this great resource might be aplied to the establishment of a system for the gra dual but certain removal of slavery, by a scheme of compensating emancipation. I have thought that the slaveholding States might wisely propose such a system, and that the free States ought to accede to it.

But, sir, it is manifest that if the old States

But, sir, it is manifest that if the old States could not agree upon such a system, or even upon any other system of partition of the Public Domain among the States, or of distribution of its proceeds, while they held unquestioned the political power of Government, they cannot now hope to agree upon, and secure the adoption of such a system, when that power is actually passing over from them to the new States. The new States will control the decision of this great question. We may, nevertheless, by yielding to what is in-

evitable, modify the policy to be adopted.

I submitted, Mr. President, a second principle, to wit: That the Public Lands, so to be granted to actual settlers, ought to be secured to them against involuntary alienation.

I respect all lawful contracts, and I would not unnecessarily interfers with even rigorous remedies which existed when such contracts were made. But it is wise as it is just and humane to made. But it is wise as it is just and humane to alleviate prospectively the relations between debtor and creditor. Within the last twenty years, imprisonment for debt, a system which had prevailed for more than two thousand years before, has been safely abolished by every State in this Union, and I believe by every commercial nation in Europea.

tion in Europe. New-York, the most commercial State, has, with equal safety, abolished the rigorous remedy of distress for rent, and has exempted certain portions of estates from liability to sale for debts ontracted a ter such laws were passed. Other States have adopted the policy of protecting the homestead from compulsory sale. A home is the first necessity of every family; it is indispensa-ble to the education and qualifications of citizens. Cannot society justly withdraw it from the haz-

ards of commercial contracts, and from exposure to the accidents of disease and death? We bestow pensions upon decayed soldiers who have faithfully served their country in the wars; we ch annuities against involuntary assign ment; and the policy is as wise as it is generous. But he who reclaims an acre of land from the sterility of nature, and brings it into a productive condition, confers a greater benefit upon the State than valor has often the power to bestow. Sir,

all that is movable in property may be used as a security for credits—and that security is adequate to supply all the wants of commerce. The home of the farmer, the asylum of the children of the

Republic, may be safely reserved and protected.
There remains, Mr. President, a third principle,
which, I think, demands the consideration of Congress, which is: That the administration of the lands within the States should be relia quished to them.

It has been sufficiently shown, that the United States can no longer derive any financial benefit from the domain. They can at best hope to ap-propriate it to purposes of internal improvement and education. Experience has taught us nothing, if it has not shown that the action of Cengress upon those interests is less judicious and beneficent than the action of the several States. Of all the railroads, canals, and other works of internal improvement—of all the universities, colleges, and schools, in the country, the States are, almost exclusively, the projectors, founders and patrons.

To maintain that the United States can select

To maintain that the United States can select such objects, and apply the public lands to the at-tainment of them, more wisely than the States could do, is to controvert the principle of our Con-stitution, which assigns domestic interests and affairs to local administration. Sir, we have only a temporary jurisdiction, and a temporary estate in the domain—both of which are of brief duration and comparatively valueless. The reversion of both belongs to the States and is infinitely important to them. It is not until that reversion has taken place that the domain really begins to contribute to the wealth and strength of the whole

Nor am I greatly embarrassed by the objection that the new States would derive an unequal share of the benefits from what is justly called a "common estate." If all the public lands lying within their limits were released to them, they would still be inferior to the older States in the advantages of capital, labor, and commercial po-sition. Every dollar of revenue which we should release, would remain within the new States, en-hancing their ability to construct channels of hancing their ability to construct channels of trade, and to found systems of education—while their own increasing wealth and prosperity would equally increase the wealth and prosperity of the old States, with whom they are intimately related and indissolubly connected.

The Senator from Michigan is alarmed with appropriate that the simplicity and certainty of

prehensions that the simplicity and certainty of titles would be put in jeopardy, by a transfer of the public lands to the States. But, Sir, our machinery of title, which is so perfect, could be at once transferred to the States, and they could operate it with increased efficiency, and with economy, which is unknown to us. No one could defend for a moment the principle that the Federal Government ought to retain the domain, with all its expenses of administration, for the mere purities of the country of pose of conferring titles in it, upon the citizen

The possession of the domain, moreover, creates relations of landlord and tenant, of patronage and dependency between the Government and the States, injurious to both. This has been an inconvenience hitherto unavoidable, and it ought
to be continued no longer than shall be required
by a paramount national interest.

I shall consider, Mr. President, very briefly, the

power of Congress in the premises. So far as the Constitution is concerned, I shall pass by all commentaries and all glosses, and take my stand upon the simple text. "The Congress shall have power to dispose of, and make all needful rules and regulations. ulations respecting the territory and other property belonging to the United States," The power of disposition thus conferred is general, unlimited, absolute. It is the same power that Congress has to dispose of forts, magazines, arsenals, editees, or ships. They have nower to sall. They have or ships. They have power to sell. They have power to give. Of coarse the power should be exercised in this as in all other cases, for the best interests of the nation, but the discretion of Congress is not abridged.

Let us now examine the supposed limitations.

Let us now examine the supposed limitations in the deeds of cession; for the rights of the States are secured by the Constitution. There are several grants which, it has been seen, are expressed in different forms. It is not the forms employed in anyone of the grants, but the general spirit and effect of them all, that explain and define the power conveyed. New-York, Massachusetts and Connecticut released by language broad and comprehensive. They conveyed "for the benefit of the United States." Virginia and other States amplified, but mani-

featly for the purpose of expressing the same meaning more fully. They granted "for the use and benefit of the United States," and declared that the estate and jurisdiction conferred should "be considered as a common fund of all the States, according to their usual respective pro-portions in the general charge and expenditure, and should be faithfully and bona fide disposed of for that puapose, and for no other purpose what-This language was adopted with reference to

the then existing Articles of Confederation, un-der which the States were charged with contributions for the support of the Federal Government, which system was afterward modified by the Constitution of the United States, so as to dispense with contributions from the States, and invest Congress with power of taxation up entative population. Certainly the terms of these grants were not intended to confine Con-gress to a disposition of the lands by sale only: Because, first, they express no such thing; and because, secondly, the political jurisdiction, as well as the right of soil, were included in the designation of "a common fund."

Again, it would be practically impossible, under

Again, it would be practically impossible, duerany system whatever, to secure equal berefits from the domain to all the States. If you so it the Lands in Obio, you may divide the avails between that State and all her sister States, but the land will still remain yielding power and wealth, directly to the State, forever; while the other than the state indirectly ricinients of such States can be only indirectly ricipients of such benefits.

What was intended, then, was simply this: that whatever disposition Congress should make of the domain, should be one purely national and impartial. It seems to me to mean nothing wore, and the Constitution expressess that meaning fully. If, then, the adoption of such principles as I have discussed has become necessary, the poli cy would then be a proper exercise of the consti-tutional power, and would fall within its trust as defined by the deeds of cession.

This is a subject of vast importance. It reaches

This is a subject of vast importance. It reaches the whole basis of the great Empire which is rising on this Continent, and forward through all the stages of its elevation, and even of its decline and fail, if it shall not be perpetual. Posterity and perhaps the civilized world will review our decisions in the light reflected on them by their leads and leasing consequences. May they be broad and lasting consequences. May they be such as will safely abide so severe and so impartial a scrutiny.

Things in Philadelphia. Correspondence of The Tabune.

PHILADELPHIA, Sunday, March 2. The contested election in the District Attorney case will be brought before the Court again on Wednesday next, when the matter will be prosecuted, until a decision is arrived at. Such is the determination of the Judges.

determination of the Judges.

The total amount of money received and paid over to the sufferers by the great fire in July last in this city, is \$33,905 53. Much money has been collected, ostensibly for that object, which has never been disbursed to the sufferers.

Yesterday, in the Oriminal Coart, Jas. Sherry, Sr. having been convicted of conspiring to blow up a house in Kensington, was sentenced to three years' imprisonment, and Peter Sherry and James Sherry, Jr., convicted of the same offense, were sentenced to two years' imprisonment.

sentenced to two years' imprisonment.

The steamship City of Glasgow is due at this port. She is now in her eighteenth day. She has on board eighty-six passengers, and a heavy cargo

of goods.

John Fell, charged with mutilating Mr. Woodside, was yesterday admitted to bail in the sum

John Felt, charged admitted to bail in the sum of \$2,500.

Corton continues unsettled, and the sales are unimportant. Flown is held at 4 50 \$4 barrel, but there is but little cereard, and only \$2700 barrels have been disposed of, including better brands and extra for city consumption at cloding better brands and extra for city consumption at 158,465 12½, and fancy brands at 52506 59. Rvs \$1.00x sells at 3 4403 59. In Coan Meat, there is nothing sells at 3 4403 59. In Coan Meat, there is nothing sells at 3 4403 59. In Coan Meat, there is nothing sells at 3 6403 59. In Coan Meat, there is nothing sells at 5 5000 bushes at 50000 cents, afford. Outs are dull. No 200,000 bushes at 50000 cents, afford. Outs are dull. No 200,000 bushes at 50000 cents, afford. Outs are dull. No 200,000 bushes at 50000 cents, afford. Outs are dull. No 200,000 bushes at 50000 cents, afford. Outs are dull. No 200,000 bushes at 50000 cents, afford a sells of Cobn and New Orleans Sucar at 51206 cents \$7 fb, or time. Bacon is in good december at present. Withskey is dull-Sales of barrels at 24, and hads, at 212022 cents.

Sales of Stocks. March 1.—First Based - 2500 Lebigh 62, 341; 35,000 cents, 153, 160 do, 174; 650 Long is lend, 12; 300 Girard, 154; 100 Reading, 55, 31; 5 Novintown, 56.

Between Reards—50 Reading, bb, 31; 160 do, 34; \$3,000 Texas 10 per cent 8 ds, 27.

After Bourd—4 Ponn RR 44; 360 Reading, bb, 3; 100 Mech Bourds, 57; \$5,000 Mech Bourds, 57; \$5,000 Reading, bb, 74; \$5,000 Mech Bourds, 57; \$6,000 Penn 5, 941; \$1,000 Texas 10 per cent 8 ds, 27.

After Bourd—4 Ponn RR 44; 360 Reading, bb, 3; 190, 300 risks, 500 penn 5, 541; \$1,000 do, 34; \$1,000 penn 5, 941; \$1,000 Texas 10 per cent 8 ds, 27.

After Hours -4 Ponn RR. 44, No Reading, 55,3 100.